





































RICH in. THE ROBOT QUARTERBACK

"Wait till you hear what I got Richiel" velped Ressie Van Dough as

"The measles?" asked Richie Rich with a crin "You won't think it's so funny when

you hear!" retorted the other, his grin turning to an angry frown, "I've got a great new quarterback for our school tesm. In fact, he's the greatest! "Better than Chuck Thibaul?" de-

manded Richie, alert with interest now because, as manager of Bonnie Dell

"Ten times as good!" Respie claimed. "Marty Mekano - that's his name -

plans to enroll next week." "But our birgest same of the year is this coming Saturday, with Flotsam Junior High. They're going to be hard

to beat-and this is for the State Championship!" Regne shruoped. 'Then we'll have him enter the school tomorrow morning." "Reggie," exclaimed Richie joyfully. "this is great! When can I meet him?

Suddenly suspicions. Richie said. Reggie, are you up to one of your Reggie looked innocent and puzzled. "Tricks? I don't know what you mean ..." "I mean, are you sure the Mekano

time Saturday!"

"Well, I did het Roger Cashleigh, who

I'd be his valet for a month," Reggie

admitted. "But Mekano is no pro or anything like that." "Then why can't I meet him?" "Because he was brought up on

Reggie added that he had to teach Melcano football through an interpreter, and if Richie wanted to see him work

out, he could come over to the school Richie did go over to the field with Reggie and he sat in the grandstand

Reggie trotted over to the bench and spoke briefly to a boy who, Richie thought, strongly resembled Chuck behind. But that was where the resemblance ended.

Mekano joined the first team at the quarterback position. The center snapped the ball back to him. He threw an eighty vard pass downfield-an amesingly high beave. Then he weaved through the scrub team, racing downfield with great speed.











"Now I've seen everything!" gas Sichie. "He's going to catch his o sess!" That's exectly what Mekano over the goal line.

Reggie looked back from the bench where he sat, and grinned, "How about that?"

Richie called back, "He's on the

teams.

But something bothered Richie, and
as Reggie joined Mekano when the
latter run off the field to the dressing
room, Richie left the stands to join
them. As be opened the door of the
dressing room. Richie way Makeno with

ressing room, Richie saw Mekano withno, and he was flabberasted. Marty Mekano was being exmined by a man in coveralls, who was sing an oil can on him.

"That big phony Reggie!" Richie

and tog poony Reggel." Richie said almost aloud. "Mekanon is a robot." So attonished was Richie that he just turned around and walked home mumbling to bimself as he went. But by the time he got there, Richie had an idea. He phoned a sculptor who lived in town and explained what he wanted. "... I'll pay you \$500 for it.

Mr. Carver!" he said.

When gametrime on Saturday rolled around, Richie found Reggie frantically struggling with the door of the locker assigned to Marty Mckano. "Who locked it?" he howled. "I can't get kin uniforms!"

Richie's eyes twinkled. "Why don't you look out on the field?" be asked, heading out of the locker room, Regge tagging after him. "How'd he get into his uniform?" de-

manded Reggie suspiciously.

"Don't Patagonians know how to dress themselves?" Richie asked, Isaaghing. By the time they'd reached the bench, Number 77 — Mekamo's number — was in the middle of a primnosee.

Reggie breathed a sigh of relief.
Number 77's playing was just great.
Though there were no eighty-yard
passes thrown and caught by the star
quarterback, he played a fantastic game,
and Bonnie Dell beat Flotsam casily,
49-to-7.
Reggie greeted Mekano as the latter

ran up at the game's end. But Reggie was in for a shock: Meksno ripped off the rubber mask artist Carver made from the real Meksno's face. It was Chuck Thibaul, the regular quarterback. Reggie was emaged. "Wise guy, Rishiel You knew my Meksno is a robot. You found him in

his locker! Well, I still win my bet from Roger Cashleigh. He's got to be my valet!"

"Be a good sport, Reggie," advised Richie. "Forget that bet. it would lock

















